

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method of incorporating a consecutive win side bet into a game of chance comprising the steps of:

a) at least one player wagering at least one chip or coin to participate in the game of chance;

b) at least one player who, having wagered a chip or coin to participate in the game of chance, wagering a second chip or coin for a consecutive wins side bet;

c) said player making the wager of step (b) further making the side bet and selecting a number of consecutive wins from within a permitted range of numbers before a play begins;

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d) presenting a display of a payoff amount according to the number of consecutive wins selected in step (c) and the amount of the wager made in step (b), and based on pre-programmed payoff odds which correspond to different values of the prospective consecutive wins; and

e) providing a winning indication only when the player making the side bet wager wins a consecutive number of games played which is equal to the number of consecutive wins originally selected at step (c).

2. (Amended) A method of playing a game of chance comprising the steps of:

[(Claim 2 continued)

a) at least one player wagering a chip or coin for a consecutive wins side bet;

b) said player making the wager of step (a) further making the side bet and selecting a number of consecutive wins from within a permitted range of numbers before a play begins;

c) presenting a display of a payoff amount according to the number of consecutive wins selected in step (b) and the amount of the wager made in step (a); and

d) providing a winning indication only when the player making the wager of step (a) wins a consecutive number of games played which is equal to the number of consecutive wins originally selected during step (b).

8 ~~8~~. (Amended) The method of claim ⁷~~2~~ wherein step (c) further comprises determining the payoff based upon pre-programmed payoff odds which correspond to different [values] numbers of consecutive wins.

42 ~~42~~. (Amended) A betting unit comprising:
a chip receptacle;
a transparent cover moveable between a first position above said chip receptacle and second position displaced from said chip receptacle;

[(Claim 20 continued)

a housing for said chip receptacle having an opening above said chip receptacle and a surrounding marginal lip extending inwardly from said opening;

elevator means for movably [mounting] supporting said chip receptacle between an upper and a lower position respectively closer to and further away from said housing opening;

drive means;

first means responsive to operation of said drive means for moving said cover between said first and second positions;

second means responsive to operation of said drive means for moving said elevator means between said upper and said lower positions, said first and second means being so interrelated as to lower said chip receptacle when said cover is being moved to said first position, raise said elevator when said cover reaches said first position, to press a marginal notch in said cover into engagement with the marginal lip of the housing and lower the elevator to provide clearance for said cover when being moved from said first position to said second position.

22 ~~40~~. (Amended) The method of claim ⁷ wherein the game of chance is craps and further including the steps of:

[(Claim 40 continued)

e) [dealing each] a player who has performed at least step (a) [and the dealer with a given number of cards] throwing a pair of dice;

f) paying off winning players and removing all wagers made at step (a) for all losing players; and

g) providing a Loss button at each player's position; and

h) operating a Loss button at a player's position of a player who has performed step (a) and has lost a game; and

i) removing the display of the player whose Loss button was operated at step (h) and removing the wager made by said player during step (b).

3 ~~41~~. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the game of chance is craps and further including the steps of:

f) [dealing each] a player who has performed at least step (a) [and the dealer with a given number of cards] throwing a pair of dice;

g) paying off winning players and removing all wagers made at step (a) for all losing players; and

h) providing a Loss button at each player's position;

i) operating a Loss button at a player's position of a player who has performed step (a) and has lost a game; and

[(Claim 41 continued)

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Cont. j) removing the display of the player whose Loss button was operated at step (i) and removing the wager made by said player during step (b).

[Cancel claims 48 and 49.

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50. (Amended) The method of claim ²⁵~~47~~ further comprising the steps of:

B 1) accumulating a count of consecutive wins each time a player has won a previous game responsive to [the dealer] providing an indication of initiation of a subsequent game; and performing step (e) by utilizing the accumulated count obtained in step ¹~~(m)~~.

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51. (Amended) The method of claim ²⁵~~47~~₄₈ further comprising the steps of:

1) accumulating a count of consecutive wins each time a player has won a previous game responsive to [the dealer] providing an indication of initiation of a subsequent game; and performing step (d) by utilizing the accumulated count obtained in step (1).